

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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**Docket:** MSHA-2014-0031

Exposure of Underground Miners to Diesel Exhaust

**Comment On:** MSHA-2014-0031-0076

Exposure of Underground Miners to Diesel Exhaust: Request for Information; Reopening of Rulemaking Record; Extension of Comment Period

**Document:** MSHA-2014-0031-0090

Comment from anonymous anonymous, NA

## Submitter Information

**Name:** anonymous anonymous

**Organization:** NA

## General Comment

RESEND ALL MINING REGULATIONS, recent California wildfires tells it all, over billion dollars in cost, lives lost, TIME FOR CHANGE... The greenhouse gas emissions alone from wildfires can be equivalent to more than 8.5 million passenger vehicles driven for a year .  
 .....2015 Subcommittee Chairman Tom McClintock (CA-04), "The greatest threat to many endangered species and their habitat is catastrophic WILDFIRE..... Yet rather than thinning the forest to protect this habitat, we're spending millions upon millions on extraordinarily long, complicated, voluminous documents that IMPEDE our ability to properly manage the forests for the benefit of all species"..... Ozone is NOT OIL AND GAS COMPANIES ...Extreme events of WILDFIRES have significant impacts on air quality especially when they occur during periods conducive to ozone formation, Findings demonstrate a clear impact of wildfires on surface O3 nearby and potentially far downwind from the fire location, which means it is not in the Flawed EPA report for Greenhouse gas. US Forest Service page, 2015 Pacific Northwest WILDFIRE season Washington 130,000 tons Oregon 90,000 tons of fine particulate matter . .... Not surprisingly, the clear and present danger of high-intensity fires on public lands in California have increased significantly over the last 20 years. Besides reducing the risk of catastrophic fire, trees in a restored healthy forest are more resistant to insect predation. POOR MANAGEMENT ALSO HAS LESS WATER FOR THE PEOPLE ....Being thinned, trees create right-sized gaps in the canopy to allow snow to fall to the ground yet receive enough shade to be protected from melting too early, unlike closed canopies from too many trees where 15 to 60 percent of snow never reaches the ground and is lost to evaporation. Further, in

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restored forests faster growing large trees sequester carbon faster than smaller trees. .... Dave Schulz, Commissioner, Montana, in 2015 testimony, "The consequences are a domino effect that results in forest management coming to a standstill." "I think there are environmental consequences to any action we take, and if we're not cautious and careful and cooperative tooth that can cause harm," Schulz reiterated during the hearing. "At the same time, there's an environmental consequence to doing nothing, and that's what I'm concerned about." .....

.....USFS Chief Dave Bosworth Said, "We Do Not Have A Fire Problem On Our Nation's Forests; We Have A Land Management Problem"..... Sunday, 17 May 2015 - There is no doubt that litigation has had a profound impact on the Forest Service and subsequently the management and mismanagement of our national forests. Millions of taxpayer dollars are spent on shuffling paper, over-analysis and ensuring process is followed. We currently estimate planning and environmental analyses are roughly 60% of the costs of forest management projects," While many environmental laws were originally passed for good reason at a time when more checks and balances were needed, the situation has dramatically changed. All of us understand that significantly more restoration needs to occur through aggressive active management." Sufficient mills no longer exist to handle wood processing. Economic depression of forest communities makes rebuilding more difficult. Lengthy and complex planning processes such as NEPA, CEQA, and the ESA must be complied with before any action is taken. CARB impedes prescribed therapeutic burns while promoting the unintended consequence of enabling larger, more damaging fires. .... the past administration Forest Service instituted a strict policy of fire suppression. Today, timber harvest in public forests is practically non-existent. Rather than a healthy 50 to 100 trees per acre, the west slope now averages 300-plus trees per acre. This concentration of trees and underbrush amounts to 45 tons of dry fuel per acre, or a potential for catastrophic fire.....